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Justice

International Ladies' Garment Workers' Union
(ILGWU)

8-15-1950

Justice (Vol. 32, Iss. 16)

International Ladies Garment Workers Union (ILGWU)

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International Ladies' Garment Workers' Union, ILGWU, labor unions, clothing workers, textile workers, garment workers, garment industry, New York, United States

Comments

Justice was the official publication of the International Ladies' Garment Workers' Union ILGWU from 1919 to 1995. Editions of *Justice* were published in English, Italian, Spanish, and Yiddish. When compared side by side, the content of some of these different editions of *Justice* shows significant differences. This is the English-language edition of *Justice*.

JUSTICE

INTERNATIONAL LADIES' GARMENT WORKERS' UNION

Vol. XXXII, No. 16

Jersey City, N. J., August 15, 1950

Price 10 Cents

Going In to Win



Members of Local 99's basketball team get a last minute pep talk. Left to right: Tom Thornton, captain, Dominick Licata, William Spencer, Aaron Recht, Alvin Levy, Donald Kugler, Irvin Krevitz and Bernard Tobin.

Stulberg in L. A. Aids New Regime

Los Angeles cloakmakers, members of Locals 55, 58, 84, 97 and 512, are making steady progress in the administration of their union since it was liberated from Communist control last month. Vice Pres. Louis Stulberg, who is visiting Los Angeles as the special representative of the General Executive Board, informed "Justice."

While the new administration which replaced the old Communist-dominated clique in the elections last June is proceeding to establish order in the shops and bring harmony to the union, the Communists have already launched a campaign of disruption and dissent to embarrass the leadership and confuse the membership.

This was evidenced at a general membership meeting of all locals at the Embassy Auditorium on July 21, attended by over a thousand members. This was the first general gathering since the Communists were ousted. The main business of the meeting was a proposal to continue the special organizing tax of

(Continued on Page 2)

Scores of Gompers Memorial Meetings Set for Labor Day

Special observances commemorating the centennial of Samuel Gompers, AFL founder, will mark Labor Day celebrations organized by state federations and local councils of the AFL throughout the country this year.

In a special message to all central trades and labor councils, Pres. William Green pointed out that Labor's holiday was the most appropriate occasion for calling attention to the significant contributions made by Gompers to the cause of organized labor and democracy.

MONTREAL HOST TO FIRST GEB MEETING SINCE CONVENTION

The first quarterly meeting of the ILGWU's General Executive Board since the Golden Jubilee Convention, adjourned last June in Atlantic City will get under way on Aug. 21, at Montreal, Que., Canada.

This will be the first meeting of the GEB in Canada in more than a half-dozen years.

The meeting, as always in the case, will be opened with a survey of the union and the industry by Pres. David Dubinsky, revealing the areas of added union strength and of spots of relative weakness on the ILGWU map. The country's preoccupation with the Korean crisis and its probable effect on the national economy will engage the attention of the GEB members.

The GEB will also pick up the mandatory decision of the Atlantic City convention and proceed to work out plans for their execution. It is expected that the board's subcommittee which went to Los Angeles in June to oversee the local elections and to help in ridding the local ILGWU cloak and dress affiliates of a pro-Communist group of office-holders will render a full report of its mission.

The political situation in the United States, with special reference to the 1950 Congressional election, is expected to top the agenda.

Reservations
for the
High Holidays
at
UNITY HOUSE
MAY NOW BE MADE AT
1710 Broadway

"Volunteers"



ILGW Officer Class Off To Field Work

The first full academic semester of the ILGWU Training Institute lasting 14 weeks—from May 1 to Aug. 11—wound up at a going-away party at International headquarters, 1710 Broadway, prior to the students' departure to the various ILGWU districts to which they were assigned.

The 32 students—20 men and four girls—will join the organizing staffs of two New York ILGWU affiliates and of seven regional offices the country over. The formation of the Institute was authorized on Nov. 14, 1946 by the ILGWU's General Executive Board to "develop staff members and future officers for the union."

In a resolution sanctioning the creation of such a training school, the GEB further clarified its purpose by stating that "through a practical program of study and field work younger members of the ILGWU and others interested in

servicing labor may be trained to assume responsible positions in the International."

Any young man or woman between the ages of 21 and 30 with high school education or its equivalent and exhibiting a genuine interest in the ILGWU and in the labor movement in general was declared eligible for admission.

The combination study-work program of the Institute was scheduled to extend over 12 months, divided into five periods as follows: the first period of approximately three months was to be spent in study of the Institute in ILGWU headquarters.

(Continued on Page 2)

Seek 40-Hr. Top for World Needle Labor

The International Bureau, the six-man executive group governing the International Garment Workers Federation, met in London, England, on Aug. 1, with Charles Krindick, ILGWU

vice president, presiding, and adopted a resolution calling for at least 40 hours as the maximum work week for the world's garment industry.

The resolution followed a report on the survey conducted by the International group into the working hours of garment workers in the United States and Western Europe. The report disclosed that working hours varied from 38 in the United States to 54 in Belgium. A special resolution was adopted condemning the conditions in the Belgian garment factories.

The fight for the 40-hour maximum work week, it was decided, would be carried on through industry contracts, government legislation, and the influence of the International Labor Organization. Moral and financial assistance will be given to member unions in countries where working abuses are most marked. A survey similar to the one done on hours will now be conducted on wages, paid time off, retirement funds and other work conditions.

The ILGWU represents 1,500,000 workers in 12 Western European countries and the United States. The next international congress of the organization will be held in May, 1951, in Dusseldorf, Western Germany. Vice Pres. Krindick left London on Aug. 2 to visit the Scandinavian countries, and will fly home early in September. He is accompanied by his wife, Hannah Babel, secretary to Pres. David Dubinsky.

LG Institute in 'Field'

(Continued from Page 1)
ters in New York City; the second period of three months to be given over to union field work in various parts of the country; the third period of three months to be spent in study at the Institute, followed by another period of two months of union work in the field, with the final month again in study at headquarters.

Applicants accepted for admission to the Training Institute were not required to pay tuition but have had to provide for their own subsistence. An allowance for students assigned to union offices outside of the New York City area, however, has been provided.

Among the courses given at the Institute during its first semester were the following: History of the ILOUW, Labor History, Labor Law, Economics for Workers, Structure and Operation of the ILOUW, Economics of the Garment Industry, Problems in Organizing, and Local Union Administration. In addition, a part of each day was set aside for learning skills such as typing, stenography, leaflet writing and layout, speech and voice training, etc. All course and workshop material has been integrated and related to the practical work of the trade union official.

Students and Districts

The students were assigned to the following ILOUW affiliates and regional offices:

Local B1-James Aron; Local C5-Albert Clarke.
E.O.Y.-Leo Cohen-Newark, N. J.; Bernard Cohen-New Haven, Conn. Northeast Department - Helen Becker-Springfield, Mass.; Isaac Gordon-Boston; Irving Weinstein-Fall River, Mass.; Benjamin Reid-Pall River; Jerome Freeman-Utica, N. Y.; Henry Glaser-Shamokin, Pa.; Harold Eskin-Easton, Pa.; Daniel Kaminker-Albion, Pa.; Harry Tobin-Allentown, Pa.; Abraham Berendsky-Albion, Pa.; Jacob Schmitt-Harrisburg, Pa.; Martin Bronsky-Hazleton, Pa.

Upper South Department-Irving Kravitz; Nathan Lippitz; Martin Berger.

Midwest Department - Nicholas Rosanno; Louis Britz; Margaret Sloan.

Ohio Region-Bernard Addi; Robert Simon.

Seaside Department - Rose Mary Coppola-Columbia, S. C.; Marvin Miller-Columbia, S. C.; Harvey Hafter-Miami, Fla.

Southwest District-Norman Boksky; Alvin Kaplan; Daniel Jorda; Reginald Knudson; Morton Shapiro; Mortimer Rifkin-Dallas, Tex.

'Field Work' Defined

In a memorandum addressed to the directors of the various ILOUW affiliates to which the students were assigned for field work, Arthur A. Elder, the director of the Institute, wrote:

"The purpose of the work program is to provide an opportunity for students to round out their training with actual work in the field. It is hoped that they will gain knowledge and understanding of union purposes and the actual day-to-day operations of union affairs.

"On arrival of students assigned to field work, it would suggest that they be given the opportunity to visit shops accompanied by business agents, so that they may become acquainted with shop procedures in your area. After breaking in, it is hoped that you will direct them to survey non-union situations in which they may be interested. With some preliminary coaching you will find the student ready to visit prospective members in their homes.

"We will, of course, consult with you as to your progress in the field so that with your advice and suggestion the young people assigned to field work may be selected in becoming effective union officers."

In what could be described as a "payroll address" on Aug. 7, Pres. David Dubinsky, the Institute's original sponsor and its warmest supporter, sketched before the students the main problems they may encounter as they make their entrance into the field of worker-employer relations.

"You are not expected to do a full-fledged organizing job as you begin your experience in this sector of union activity," the ILOUW chief told his student audience, "nor be able to answer all the questions. In fact, even the director of the region to which you may be assigned may find himself stumped on many occasions. There are no infallible blueprints for union success; what we have to avoid is making mistakes that are avoidable.

"You must remember that each union situation, in each shop, in each locality has its own angles, and what may be applicable in one shop will not do in another. The thing to remember, however, is that in order to make good you must keep your attention to what is going on in the shop to which you are assigned, you must know the temper and the feelings of the people among whom you are operating."

Pres. Dubinsky cited for the students a number of celebrated ILOUW organizing cases, among them the campaign to unionize the Big Prints-Biederman coat and suit plant in Cleveland and the organizing drive in the Popkin Bros. glass plant in Fall River, Mass., where unorthodox methods combined with patient outwitting and adroit timing had to be employed in order to gain fair and effective settlements.

"In your contact with workers in outlying plants, and especially in the union towns where new shops are being opened by employers who formerly had their production done

for them in the big centers, you must be able to convince the workers that it is not the union's purpose to drive the plant out of their town and back to New York, Cleveland, Chicago or Boston. Chiefly your purpose should be to impress both the community and the workers that your main goal is to raise the earning power and to improve the living conditions of the men and women engaged in garment making. You must make them realize that you are not going into such localities in order to get union dues-payers but to elevate the conditions of labor in their shops."

Faculty and Guest Lecturers

The full-time faculty of the Training Institute during its first semester, in addition to Director Elder, consisted of the following: Dr. Philip Taft, Brown University; Dr. Morris Fuchs, Brooklyn Law School; Dr. Charles Silberman, Columbia University; Leon Stein; William Rose; Rebecca Jarvis; Elsiebeth Polach; Louis Silverstein; Joseph Shane; Stephen Vladeck; Al Kehrer.

The guest lecturers were: David Dubinsky; Frederick F. Ueber; Julius Hochman; Isidore Nagler; Charles Zimmerman; Meyer Perlstein; George Rubin; Adolph Held; Harry Uviller; Morris Glusker; Bernard Horowitz; James Lipson; Gus Tyler; William Gomburg; Morris Siegel; Jo Masur; Harry Cruse; Aaron Glasner; Isaac Eisenstein; Harry Laidler; Philip Carey, S.J.; David Ginkoff; Michael Johnson; Simon Hamburger; Leonard Tapper; Wilbur Dandick; Chas. Chalkin; Ralph Roberts; Abraham Sefr; William Matheson; Abraham Sefr; Jay Levontson; Goodman Block; Max D. Deutsch; Mark Starr; Phyllis M. Cohn; N. M. Minkoff; Morris Makin; Sol Greene.

Training School Field Day



Words of advice from Pres. Dubinsky



An informal chat with Prof. Philip Taft



Punch for the well wishers



Fond farewell to Stein, the class mascot



Off they go, with Director Elder's best wishes

Stenberg in L. A. Aids new regime

(Continued from Page 1)

It is a number a month. Despite their feeble forces throughout the hall, the Communists and their fellow travelers at once began raising objections to continuing the assessment. While none of them dared speak out openly against an organizing campaign, all kinds of technical issues were raised. One speaker complained that before he voted in favor of the recommitment, he wanted a report of all organizing plans. The fact that non-union manufacturers would also welcome a preview of the campaign blueprint did not seem to matter to him. When the recommendation was brought to a vote, it was thunderously approved, with only two dissenting "nays."

Supporters of the old Communist-controlled administration, it was reported, are also carrying their "ride or ruin" tactics into the shops where they have been provoking "quickie" stoppages. The union, however, is taking steps to bring these political stoppages to an immediate halt. Members who deliberately jeopardize the union's contract with the employers by causing such violations will be dealt with severely, administration leaders stated.

Calls for Harmony

Speaking at both the membership meeting and a meeting of the Cloak Joint Board on Aug. 3, Vice Pres. Stenberg stressed that the ILOUW would take every step necessary to bring harmony and unity among all

sections of the union in Los Angeles, to organize non-union factories in the Southern California area and to help develop a stable market.

Referring to the recently dissolved ticketers of Communist overlordship in Los Angeles, Stenberg reviewed the experiences of the ILOUW in fighting back Communist power drives. "We learned our bitter lessons in the period from 1929 to 1937. Our members paid with their blood, their jobs and their union treasury. But they learned to recognize the Communist for what they are—the enemies of all workers. We are vitally concerned with the well-being of our members," he asserted, "and we will not tolerate tactics that serve only to undermine their conditions and destroy their only life."

At the joint board meeting, Stenberg warmly lauded the efforts of Morris Rabin, who was designated general supervisor of the Cloak Joint Board by the General Executive Board early in 1948, and who spearheaded the campaign to bring the joint board back into the family of the International.

Acting in line with the objectives of his assignment in Los Angeles, Stenberg has already held a number of conferences with association leaders and manufacturers representing every section of the Los Angeles garment industry to lay down upon them the ILOUW determination to maintain harmonious contractual relations with every employer living up to the full letter of his contract, in a stable and prosperous market.

Taping Man-on-Street Program



Frank Dix, a member of Local 23, Skirmishers, and an operator of the B. & W. Sportswear Co., will be heard on the first "On the Curb" program starting over WFDR on Aug. 21st at 9 P.M. Here he is being interviewed by Lou Frankel, WFDR Special Events director, during the recording of the first program on the sidewalks of the garment district during lunch hour.

Campaign Groups Swing Into Action On \$2 Donations

The drive to collect a voluntary contribution of \$2 per member, voted by the Golden Anniversary Convention of the ILGWU, is off to a swift start, in spite of the heat and summer vacations, according to a report from Gus Tyler, director of the ILGWU 1950 Campaign.

Reports from local ILGWU 1950 Campaign Committees indicate that political fund collections in this mid-year will maintain the high record previously established by the membership of the union.

The joint boards in New York City, Chicago, San Francisco, Philadelphia, Milwaukee, Cleveland, Kansas City and St. Louis have already set up their campaign organizations. In addition, local units are rapidly completing their committees, with the New York City locals turning in a report of almost 100 per cent organization.

The Philadelphia Kingbirds Workers Legislative Fund has the distinction of being the first group to make a financial contribution to the ILGWU 1950 Campaign Committee. Other campaign committees have placed orders for their subscription lists and receipt stamps, and have begun collections in the shops to fulfill quotas, in some instances greater than the Presidential year of 1948.

Dubinsky Appeal

The extensive growth of campaign committees in the first two weeks of August came in response to an appeal from David Dubinsky, chairman of the ILGWU 1950 Campaign Committee, writing the monthly August and September as the date for collection of the \$2 per member political contribution. Within 18 days after the mailing of this letter, close to 100 local committees had been established.

To spur the fund raising campaign, Gus Tyler has been setting forth the names of the 1950 legislators. Such rallies have been held by the Milwaukee Joint Board and local, the Chicago Joint Board and local, New York Locals 22, 135, 65, 22. Similar appearances were made on Local 47's radio broadcast and on Local 81's program over WFDR-PM. Tyler also addressed the 84th Annual Convention of the Manufacturers Federation of Labor on the most important issues of 1950.

Registration drives to make every

PRICE CONTROL NOW DEMANDED BY AFL'S EXECUTIVE COUNCIL

The establishment of price controls, but inflation threw the center of his was demanded by the Executive Council of the American Federation of Labor in session in Chicago last week.

On the subject of possible wage freezes, the council expressed the thought that, following price controls, "wage controls may become necessary." It emphasized the fact, however, that since June 24 prices of basic commodities have advanced 25 per cent, partly because of hoarding and rising costs has disappeared and wages have fallen far behind.

Prior to the consideration of wage controls, it would, therefore, be necessary to permit the leveling upward of wages to attain parity with higher prices on the basis of comparative percentages. The Executive Council also called for the increase of taxes "on the basis of genuine equality of sacrifice." This, the council declared, includes an "effective" excess profits tax "to take the profit out of producing."

While the Executive Council was meeting, news came from Chicago that the International Association of Machinists, former AFL affiliate and now independent, has decided to submit the question of AFL re-affiliation to a referendum of its 100,000 members.

Pres. David Dubinsky, a member of the AFL Executive Council, attended all its sessions.

Street Interviews From Seventh Ave. To Start on WFDR

A daily man-on-the-street program of interviews with people in the garment district will start over WFDR on Aug. 21 at 9 P.M. The program, produced by the Special Events Department of WFDR, is now being recorded in the district during lunch hour.

Last week the program came from four different street corners in the garment center. To do the show, the WFDR remote unit drives to the curb at lunch time and after the recording equipment is prepared the sidewalk chats get under way. The plan is to build up a backlog of programs so that on inclement weather cancels a daily recording session the program can go on the air as scheduled.

Her Favorite Paper



Little Rosalia Salgado Maino, three-year-old Spanish child "adopted" by workers of Fierman and Kolmer Cloak Co. in New York, displays copy of "Justice," Spanish-language ILGWU publication. Rosalia, who lives in Tuxedo, France, is daughter of a Spanish labor leader, a courier in the anti-fascist underground, who's been a prisoner of Franco since 1947, serving a 25-year term.

YOUR CAMPAIGN DOLLAR BUYS PLENTY

Contribute to
ILGWU 1950 CAMPAIGN COMMITTEE

District 50 Raid in Chamas Plant Initiated by ILGWU

The jurisdictional raid conducted by District 50, United Mine Workers, on the Bland Chamas plant in Stamford, Conn., has been repudiated by Local 98, Rubberized Novelty Workers, with whom the firm has a contract, it is announced by Daniel Numanav, the local's manager.

The preservation of ILGWU jurisdiction was achieved with the aid of the Connecticut State Federation of Labor and many of its affiliates in Stamford. Local 98 has an agreement with Bland Chamas covering its plant in Yonkers, N. Y. When the shop in Stamford was opened, its workers signed ILGWU membership cards.

District 50, after planting some of its members in the shop, called a strike by means of which it was able to compel the firm to void its ILGWU agreement and sign another with the UMW affiliate. For a full week they were able to stop production completely and to win a large measure of community sympathy for their professed cause.

Numanav came at once to Stamford where, with the aid of Sam Janis of the Eastern Out-of-Town Department staff, he began a campaign to present the correct picture of the situation at Bland Chamas, the property of Stamford. Advertisements in the newspapers and conferences with the leaders of other trade unions helped to achieve that purpose.

Outstanding aid was rendered by Joseph M. Rozek, secretary-treasurer of the Connecticut State Federation of Labor, and Fred Bolerio, business agent of Local 191 of the Teamsters' Union in Bridgeport. With the help of Louis Sanguinetti, business agent of the Bricklayers' Union, whose three daughters are employed by Bland Chamas, a decisive group of workers were convinced that ILGWU jurisdiction had been properly established and that the efforts by the UMW were those of a ruse. When these points were made clear, workers denounced the UMW raid and returned to work under the beneficial terms of the ILGWU agreement. Local 98 has asked for an NLRB election to establish a union shop.

Drive in High

Manager Numanav also reports that the firm's organization drive has made excellent progress during the summer months. Especially noteworthy has been the untimely loss of three firms employing about 200 workers.

These include the Bland Chamas plant in Stamford as well as the Ames Manufacturing Co. in Brooklyn and the Clearview Products Co. of New York.

NLRB Finds Miami Firm "Unfair" in Laying Off Hands

The action of Sommers Herbert, Inc. of Miami, Fla., in laying off its workers as soon as it was learned they had joined the union has been judged an unfair labor practice by the NLRB. At the same time the firm was ordered to pay \$100,000 in back pay, Samuel L. Macy, manager of the Miami Joint Council, reports.

Further, the firm agreed to a letter to Vice Pres. John A. Martin, who is in charge of organizational work in the area, that it would become a union shop conforming to union standards when the joint council revokes other Miami decisions.

The union had signed up Sommers Herbert workers at a meeting in April. The firm was then notified by registered letter that the union desired to negotiate a contract. However, Mr. Sommers refused to accept the letter and laid off all members of the shop, alleging there was no work.

A charge of unfair practices brought an NLRB complaint to Miami, and after a thorough examination he ordered the firm to post a notice informing workers of their right to union membership.

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N.Y. DRESSMAKERS

Distribution of Israeli Housing Bonds Set; Quarter-Million Sold

All arrangements have been completed for the distribution of the actual Amun-Israeli housing bonds, it is announced by Charles S. Zimmerman, chairman of the executive committee of the enterprise, which is seeking to aid the housing program in the Jewish State.

According to Zimmerman, the distribution of these bonds is about to start among the dressmakers, who have already pledged their first quarter of a million dollars.

Letters are being sent to the shop groups and individuals who account for \$112,000 of these pledges. Another \$100,000 has been pledged by Local 22.

Zimmerman also reports that ILGWU leads throughout the country are setting the pace in the drive for union support of the Israeli housing project. It is expected that when the drive is completed the ILGWU and its members will have accounted for more than their \$2,000,000 goal. The goal of the drive is to raise \$10,000,000 with which to build 8,000 homes.

The Amun-Israeli project is a non-profit enterprise jointly sponsored by labor and business. It was organized to relieve Israel's crucial housing shortage, the result of exorbitant heavy immigration, by financing the large-scale construction of homes for workers and farmers. President of the enterprise is Charles H. Silver, president of the executive. David Dubinsky, Jacob H. Polsky and Nelson Rockefeller are its vice presidents.

Charles S. Zimmerman is chairman of Amun-Israeli's executive committee, Louis Hollander, manager of the Amalgamated Clothing Workers' Joint Board of New York, is secretary of the executive committee, and Joseph Breslaw is a member of its board.

Amun-Israeli bonds, which pay 3 percent interest, are available in denominations of \$100, \$500, \$1,000 and \$5,000.

Outing to Hyde Park Expected To Draw Record Dress Crowd

The Summer schedule of the Dressmakers Liberal Party Club will wind up with an outing to Hyde Park on Aug. 26 for which a record number of tickets has already been sold, it is announced. Those going on the outing will leave Dress Joint Board headquarters, 218 West 40th St., at 8 A.M. After visiting the Roosevelt home, the dressmakers will move on to Shady Brook Park for a picnic. The Aug. 26 event comes after a

number of summertime meetings sponsored by the club. These were devoted to discussion of important municipal and international affairs. They always included informal social periods during which refreshments and entertainment were provided.

Officers of the club point to the high summertime attendance at these meetings as proof that political interest and activity can be kept at a high pitch even during an "off season" period.

The Liberal Party Club of the dressmakers will begin early in September its planned round of meetings aimed at the coming election.

97% OF ACCESSORIES UNION-MADE, SURVEY BY COUNCIL REVEALS

Vigilant surveillance by the Ladies' Apparel Accessories Council contributed greatly to the high record of compliance with the accessories clause of union agreements in the New York area last year, the council's 1949 report released by Manager A. V. Calice disclosed.

Under terms of this clause, garment manufacturers in contractual relations with ILGWU locals are required to obtain accessory items from unionized firms only. The council is empowered to examine books of manufacturers and jobbers to guard against violations.

During the past year, the report showed, the council conducted 2,062 examinations, in the course of which 474 violations were discovered and halted. At the same time, it was revealed that over 97 per cent of accessories used on ladies' garments were union made; less than 3 per cent were acquired from non-union sources.

The Accessories Council was organized in 1936 by the four New York ILGWU locals with jurisdiction over miscellaneous accessories for women's apparel. These are Local 40, Bellmakers; Local 94, Buttonhole Workers; Local 66, Buttons Embroidery Workers, and Local 143, Ladies' Neckwear Workers.

DRESS JOINT BOARD

Plan Renewal of Dress Campaign

Resumption of the New York Dress Joint Board's drive to organize the non-union remnants of the dress industry in the metropolitan area was planned at a meeting of dress union managers on Aug. 7.

Charles S. Zimmerman, manager of Dressmakers' Union, Local 22, will again lead the drive which will be aimed at unionizing the die-hard holdouts against last season's campaign.

'Middle Way' Mementos



August Lindberg (left), former president of the Swedish Federation of Labor, presents flag of "land of the middle way" and set of books to Vice Pres. Julius Hochman during recent visit to garment center by Swedish trade union delegation.

Today and Tomorrow

Luigi Antonini

First Vice-Pres. • ILGWU

(Following are excerpts from an interview with Patry Natalucci, manager of the Lower Price Settlement Department, who recently returned from a visit to Italy. John Gelo, assistant general secretary of Local 89, conducted the interview on the "Voice of 89" in the absence of General Secretary Luigi Antonini.)

Gelo: Are the people in better spirits?

Natalucci: There are some Italians who have their belly full, and there are many others who have empty or almost empty stomachs. The Communists capitalize on the misery of the great mass of people. Their best ally are the richer people who ignore the necessity for social reforms.

Gelo: Do you mean to say that the Communists dominate the situation?

Natalucci: Fortunately, not in the last two years, they had lost plenty of ground. For example, today they are not in a position to paralyze the nation with general strikes. Many workers, Demo-Christians, Social-Democrats of various groups, Republicans, etc., have withdrawn from the Confederation of Labor dominated by Mr. Di Vittorio. In this way, the Communists have lost the monopoly of the labor movement.

Gelo: You mean the Communists are no longer a danger in Italy?

Natalucci: No, I didn't mean that. In Italy, the Communists still hold important positions in the political movement, in the labor movement, and in the cooperative movement. The great task today is to remove them from these posts. However, words are not sufficient. The Italians have a saying that idle chatter and wooden tobacco pouches obtain nothing in pawn shops. Action is needed, such as social reforms, land to the farmers, help to the legitimate cooperatives and a more just fiscal policy.

Gelo: Have they done nothing in the way of social reforms?

Natalucci: They have started to do something. For example, when I left Rome, the Italian Parliament was due to get a bill to institute in Italy a fiscal system similar to that which we have in America so that everyone would be taxed in proportion to his earnings.

Gelo: Which institutions did you visit?

Natalucci: After my visit to Saragat, Canini and the Secretary of Mercedant Marine, Simontini, the Secretary of D'Aragona, the young Matteo Matteotti and others, I immediately went to the Carlo Treves Institute maintained by the Italian American Labor Council,

near Montecompatri. That is one institution completely different from all others. It is not a trade school. I would say it is similar to a family, a small republic of children, all inspired and who sacrificed their lives for the cause of human liberty.

Gelo: Are the surroundings clean?

Natalucci: Yes. On my impromptu visit I inspected even the bed-sheets, finding all very clean.

Gelo: How are the children?

Natalucci: They are all in perfect health. They govern themselves. In fact, they are better democrats than we are. We elect a Mayor every four years. They elect their Mayor once a month.

Gelo: Did you say that you were in Sicily and visited Mondello?

Natalucci: This was the prime assignment given me by Antonini. As you know, I visited the Franklin D. Roosevelt Institute three years ago. The panorama in the same place, then many transformations took place. I can report that every dollar contributed by the garment workers in all our relief drives has been well spent. They are spent to provide a life of dignity for many children who through misfortune have lost the main support of their life (the father). They are 300 children living in four big pavilions, all re-modelled and well-equipped. The president of the institute, Mrs. Rosa Buzzini, told me that another pavilion will soon be completed so that it will be possible to admit another 250 orphans.

Gelo: Tell us a word or two about Pozzallo.

Natalucci: I had heard so much about the Village of Pozzallo at Pozzallo started by Local 48. The pavilion is the product of construction and the children are there already in good number. The children vary from seven to 10 years and all look to be very happy.

Gelo: Do you believe there is still need of help in Italy?

Natalucci: I certainly do. Our assistance must be continued. It is not only a meritorious deed; it is the duty of all of us who enjoy the calmness of Twilight to show that America is not a land of manufacturers but a nation of benefactors of humanity.

Stiff Price Rises Will Ruin Garment Sales, Union Warns

Profligate price policies are ruining the present garment-making season which began with excellent prospects. This is the consensus of opinion among officers of the dress union who last week again warned that in women's apparel there still exists a buyer's market and that sharp price rises may price garments out of the consumer's reach.

The past two weeks, it is stated, have witnessed further rises in the price of textiles along with precipitous increases in the price of accessories and trimmings needed for garments.

Prices of seam binding, thread, needle, shoulder pads and slippers are among those which have skyrocketed in recent weeks. "The continuation of business on a normal, sane basis would have meant a good season for certain," one union officer stated. "But the mad scramble for quick, speculative profit makes a railroad of prices to the pre-Warman war period essential as a condition for maintaining sales."

Belgians View Union Radio



Joseph Shane, ILGWU assistant educational director (left), shows workings of the union's FM radio station, WFOR, to Belgian ECA trade union group who visited international headquarters while touring American industrial establishments.

EASTERN OUT-OF-TOWN DEPT.

Harry Wander • Manager

Buy Medical Equipment For New Newark Center

Renovation of the building purchased for the ILGWU New Health Center is being completed and the purchase of equipment for this clinic has begun, it is announced by Vice Pres. Harry Wander.

The center will service more than 10,000 members of the ILGWU in the Newark area. Preliminary estimates are that the total investment for the building, alterations and equipment, including facilities for local union offices, will run close to \$1,000,000.

The five-story building which will house the Newark Health Center is located at the corner of Broad and William Streets in that city. The structure and site were selected last year after a careful search for a suitable building and location. The building was then purchased by the Eastern Out-of-Town and Cloak Out-of-Town Departments.

With the rebuilding almost completed, the purchasing of the most modern medical equipment is proceeding under the careful guidance of a committee headed by Executive Secretary Frederick P. Unshy.

Dr. Leo Price, director of the New York Health Center, and Dr. Asher Yaguda, director of the Newark Union Health Center.

Also serving with the committee has been William Russ of the Northeast Department's staff, who was called in to advise on certain phases of the work because of his wide experience in establishing the health centers now functioning under the Northeast Department's jurisdiction.

\$3-\$2 INCREASES ARE HIGHLIGHT OF ROYAL ROBES RENEWED PACT

Two firms employing approximately 238 workers have renewed their agreements with the Eastern Out-of-Town Department.

Royal Robes of Plainfield, Conn., has renewed its agreement with Local 167. The new contract provides increases for both week workers and piece workers. Cutlers will receive a \$3 increase, except spreaders and assestors who will receive \$2, as will workers in all other departments. The new agreement also provides for three paid holidays and a 4 per cent contribution by the firm to cover health and vacation benefits.

Lady Ann Blouse Co. of Bound Brook, N. J., has renewed its agreement with Local 168. The new agreement provides for six and a half holidays for all workers and a 4 per cent contribution for health and vacation benefits.

UNDERPAYMENTS TO EOT WORKERS VARY FROM \$5 TO \$2,466

With the cooperation of the New York Dress Joint Board, the Eastern Out-of-Town Department has collected a total of \$37,128 in underpayments for workers under its jurisdiction. The amounts paid to individual firms range from \$5.88 to \$2,466. The sum, collected from six jobbers, was paid out as follows: Operators and pressers of Manrose Dress, Crose Park L. I., received a total of \$265; in Columbus Dress, Garfield, N. J., operators were paid \$1; Seaboard of Clare Dress, Garfield, obtained \$538; operators and pressers of I. Rowden, Newark, N. J., received a total of \$20,391; and \$141; Seaboard of Clare Dress, Garfield, obtained \$538; operators and pressers of Mills Dress, Mt. Vernon, N. Y., were paid a total of \$28; at Current Frocks, New Dorp, S. I., the operators and pressers received a total of \$2,466.

Executive Secretary Frederick P. Unshy, Dr. Leo Price, director of the New York Health Center, and Dr. Asher Yaguda, director of the Newark Union Health Center.

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'Talking It Up' on the Line



After weeks on the picket line these George McGill Co. workers in Orange, N. J., still firmly believe they'll get what they want in the way of a bang-up union contract.

N. Y. State Labor Bars Reds, Upholds Korea

Adhering faithfully to a line adopted three years ago—to exclude pro-Communist affiliates from its sessions—the 1,100 delegates to the annual convention of the New York State Federation of Labor which met at the Commodore Hotel in New York City from July 31 to Aug. 3, shouted approval of a statement reaffirming that policy made by Joseph Turvin, manager of ILGWU Local 142 and chairman of the convention's credentials committee.

The recommendations of the Turvin committee carried special weight this year because of the Korean situation. Serving as targets were 23 delegates from seven local unions whose credentials were made the subject of special screening. "In this hour of crisis," Turvin said, as the convention applauded vociferously, "it is absolutely necessary to reevaluate the role of the Communists and their front organizations in this country."

Labor Target for Sabotage

"The Communism and its branches in the United States and the rest of the non-totalitarian world are dedicated to one purpose: to spy for the Russian military machine, to sabotage production, to create and aggravate social conflict and to divide and weaken the free people of the earth so that they should be crippled and defeated in their resistance to Soviet imperialist aggression and its armed hordes as in Korea."

"In this connection we strongly warn all labor unions to be on guard, especially in this hour of crisis, against Communists who make a policy of lying and deception even in normal times. Today the Communists will use new tricks, amongst the wariest, let and go to the wildest extent to hide their identity and take on utterly false colors to enable old-hat Communist operations to continue safely their infiltration and subversion of trade unions."

Lehman Endorsed
The state federation's convention, representing 1,200,000 members, gave its virtual endorsement to the expected candidacy of Sen. Herbert H. Lehman this fall. The delegates voted to refer to a special non-partisan committee a resolution recommending Sen. Lehman's reelection. Not since 1946, when the New York Federation of Labor en-

dorsed the third-term bid of the late Franklin D. Roosevelt for President, has it committed itself to a major candidate.

In acting later on the credentials committee's report, the convention refused to seat 11 delegates but admitted 13 others whose credentials were minutely scanned. "A mere statement by some of these prospective delegates of their change of heart," the committee said, "will not suffice; time alone will tell. There's definitely been a shedding of Communist activities by many for the purpose of debasing organized labor and the general public."

Backing the United Nations-United States action in Korea, William Green, AFL president, pledged to the nation the full support of labor and promised that American workers would "produce in record time whatever is needed in the way of armaments to speed the victory."

GEO. MCGILL PICKET LINE STRONG; TALKS 'MAKE SLOW ADVANCE'

Negotiations are continuing with representatives of the George McGill Co. in Orange, N. J., for the settlement of the strike which has halted production by this firm since the middle of last April.

According to Vice Pres. Harry Wander, director of the Eastern Out-of-Town Department, several meetings have been held with representatives of the firm at which terms of a settlement have been explored.

The McGill shop was struck during the course of the 1947 campaign to organize the new remaining non-union plants in the Orange area. The drive is under the immediate direction of Peter Derdikian. The 60 workers employed by the firm have continued their picketing of the plant with no slackening of their determination or enthusiasm.

BOO FOOT

—Miriam Speechhandler

MARGARET DEWIDOR ROBIN. By Mary E. Dreier, Island Press 34.

Coming generations of garment workers can repay in some small measure the tremendous debt they owe such women as Mrs. Margaret Robin preserving the memory of the invaluable contribution they made in the days when the ILGWU was the garment industry. In the crucial and dramatic uprising of the 20,000 workmen in 1909, many women like Mrs. Robin played important parts in rallying public opinion.



support and sympathy for the women and girls whose cause appeared to be so far removed from the kind of life upper-class women knew. For 15 years Margaret Dreier Robin was president of the National Women's Trade Union League. In that capacity she knew women known to thousands of garment workers throughout the nation as a staunch friend and fighting comrade.

Her sister, Mary Dreier, who now tells Margaret's story in warm and fascinating detail, mentions that after the Triangle shot in the days before the great 1909 walkout, the "LOWU News-Herald" reported that Mrs. Margaret's account of how Mary Dreier was arrested on that point line. "Miss Dreier was discharged upon arrival at the nearest station house," the account reads, "and the police attitude was deliciously revealed when the officer in charge upbraided her for not having told him that she was the rich working girl's friend—had known which, of course, he would not have arrested her."

There were others like the Dreier sisters who forewent inherited class facilities for the greater love of justice. Margaret and her crusading husband, Raymond, this book shows, dedicated themselves to the cause of working women and children. They thus enriched the life of the land they loved.

OUR REJECTED CHILDREN. By Albert Deutsch. Little, Brown & Co. 32.

With calm judgment and thorough familiarity with the facts, Albert Deutsch blazes the thoughtful manner in which the several states, through their training institutions and houses of correction, deal with children who get into trouble.

Wisely, Deutsch avoids easy generalizations and simplifications which lay the blame for juvenile delinquency on comics or radio programs or even on broken families.

He credits these with their full measure of evil influence. But he does not make main charges against a society which expects to raise a generation of well-behaved and responsible citizens in an environment of slum overcrowding, poverty, dirt and corruption.

The society which opens these detention, he holds, adds the final injury by segregating young people in trouble in misnamed institutions, by putting them in the charge of persons who are ignorant of advanced and proven methods of corrective treatment.

Mr. Deutsch's indictment should put the spotlight on a heart-breaking evil which will continue to flourish

March of Life

By MAX PRESS

We all, others take our places and life goes on. Man, hurt and troubled, ever grows toward his destiny! The living press on, streaming through the gates of death, Life moves on, broken, blind and yet relentlessly.

Steady and painfully the stubborn tide moves on. Toward the promised city, the golden dream waves; Forward, ever forward, on weary, bleeding feet.

The white-faced generations struggle toward the sun.

ish no long as politics and penny are allowed to take the place of the security and understanding needed to wipe it out.

STRATEGY IN POKER, BUSINESS AND WAR. By John McDonald. W. W. Norton & Co. 11.50.

Mr. McDonald, in this book bearing what is no doubt the most engaging title of the season, presents an effective popularization of the highly technical theory of games developed by a group of mathematical economists who see in the conduct of the three pursuits listed in the title variations on the taking of calculated risks.

In recent years economists have developed theories of social behavior from the point of view of the rudiments of labor theory of value, as well as the overcomplications of supply and demand.

Neither these, nor many other theories completely explained the maneuvers, feints and indirectness of much of our economic behavior. The theory of games, as McDonald summarizes it, reduces economic endeavor to two- or three-party contests and seeks to define the strategy by which gains can be maximized. This, according to the theory, can be achieved by maximizing one's own gains rather than by seeking to maximize each gain.

The book is an enjoyable popularization of a challenging theory.

Contribute to
ILGWU 1950
Campaign Committee

"Peace—It Was Wonderful"



THE FRONT PAGE

Plight of the DISPLACED PERSONS

GENEVA (LPA).—Two three-year-olds are celebrating their birthdays this summer. One is a boy who was born into a "DP" world. The other is an organization that has made that world and those initials—"DP"—less frightening and less hopeless than ever before in the world's long history of forced flight.

Abbas Latham is three years old this summer. So is the International Refugee Organization. Abbas, formerly Latvian, is on a farm in Gazy, Iraq, fast forgetting that during his first three years he was stamped "Displaced Person," that once he was behind the thing other people



call the Iron Curtain. Abbas does not know the word "refugee" because the IRO is devoted to taking the horror and misery out of the word; to taking the potential reform-waste material that World War II made out of millions of lives and giving them meaning and purpose again.

The IRO—child of the United Nations—has resettled 800,000 displaced persons who refused to be repatriated because they were afraid of persecution behind the Iron Curtain and in the countries from which they fled; has repatriated 15,000 back to the countries they left in fear or by compulsion five to ten years ago; has assisted 600,000 given care and maintenance to 200,000 and extended services to another 200,000.

In the process it has operated 38 ships—one of the largest peacetime civilian fleets ever assembled, at least one IRO ship leaves Europe every day for ports in any one of 31 distant countries and dependent territories from Australia to the Ant-

les, from the China coast to the IRO, ratified by 18 nations, began with the official report of only seven nations. IRO's Director General J. Donald Kingsley terms it "starting out on faith and a shoestring." Its task was to help the refugees mend their lives, reverse their fortunes, and return to their homes.

When the IRO was formed, most of the dreams were of resettlement since almost all those who were going back home had already gone by 1947. To the IRO was allotted the task of finding open doors throughout the world for over a million marooned, jobless, nationless refugees. By turning its tentacles into almost every open door of the globe, IRO has found homes, so far, for three-fourths of the 347 million displaced persons.

The organization has settled many of the refugees through mass migration schemes. For many, however, mass migration would not be possible because of broken up, individual skills, talents and special interests would be subverted. To solve this, IRO has both a family replacement center and an individual replacement center—the world's most unique hiring hall.

Through the former more than 400 families, as whole units, have found homes. Through the latter have come over a thousand individuals and families to the open world. IRO has seven special representatives assigned to "cover" various parts of the world in search of jobs for "clients."

IRO is scheduled to disband next March. There are 250,000 still in DP camps. The U. S.—already home of 170,000 CPs—has the Australia, and other countries have promised to take the majority of them. The minority forms a group and is waiting under the normal immigration programs. They are the physically disabled, the aged and the feeble-minded. Of these, one-fourth comprise 120,000 "hard core," the severely handicapped and chronically ill who will need institutional care for the rest of their lives. The other three-fourths have slight disabilities or are of a family with a handicapped member.

The tags of the refugees stamped "undesirable for entry" are the tags of thousands of uprooted lives waiting—waiting for release; for acceptance; for a decent future. IRO, in its remaining months, is dedicated to getting the handicapped started on the road to that future. Countries and their dependencies, Sweden has accepted tubercular cases; Holland has received amputees; France and Belgium have provided shelter for the mentally ill; and Israel has welcomed all the aged and handicapped DPs who have sought haven there.

The thousands still waiting are not "hopeless" cases, no displaced persons in any of the camps throughout Europe can lose faith in finding a new world for himself as long as IRO is around, with its staff of experts, its sponsorship from 18 nations and hundreds of voluntary groups, its goal of "a new life for all."

IRO is celebrating its third birthday this summer and messages have come from every corner of the world saying, "You worked a miracle."

nia does not protect the worker who is

employer. law of the Keystone State now offers an employer to take off with undistrib-

for paying wages at intervals. held the judge: "The act clearly restricts li-

ing. The operation of the act can be entirely avoided by prescribing in the contract of hiring for the payment of wages at intervals upon

In 1940, Judge Carr of Fayette County (Commonwealth ex rel. v. Shaw) held that, on the contrary, the act applies only to wages payable by understanding, contract or stipulation on a semi-monthly basis.

In 1948, Judge Laird of Westmoreland County ruled the whole thing by throwing out (Commonwealth v. Miller) seven cases brought by seven workers against their delinquent employer. The case was his house when he declared: "In the instant case, the neglect to pay semi-monthly was the defense, and if there were only one neglect to pay, as we understand there was, it constituted only one offense," and, not eight separate offenses. His matter how many employees delinquent had, if he had one or eight, there was only one neglect, or failure to pay semi-monthly and consequently only one violation of the law.

"We do not understand the legislation to have intended that an employer's failure to pay semi-monthly should constitute a private wrong to be righted by the courts of the state. We think the employer's failure is an offense against the public or the Commonwealth and not against the individual em-

ployer, that the act is an expression of the public policy of the Commonwealth as announced by the legislature and that the failure to pay semi-monthly constituted but one offense, no matter how many employees were affected."

Clearly, the absconding employer has little to fear. He must first be caught, he must be sued. If he is charged for twelve or other intervals of paying, except semi-monthly, he goes out-free.

But suppose he is that very rare bird who has made a clear arrangement to pay his workers on a semi-monthly basis, then, if he is caught, and sued, and found guilty, he must pay a fine. Not a penny he owes. He has no obligation to the workers he gyped. He has an obligation to the state. And he can wipe that off by paying a fine of \$100—or less.

Fortunately, the paying people of Pennsylvania and the other states, through their unions, have provided themselves with protection against the scoundrels who would pay off by defaulting on wages. Nevertheless, the existence of such a law and its gross failure to protect wage earners, in and out of unions, is an insult to all workers in the state. The fiction that there is protection should be ended either by proper amendment of the present statute or enactment of a new one.

can be taken to be between the agreement

The SOUTHWEST

Meyer Perlstein
Southwest Regional Director

Forest City Hands Over Back Pay for July 4th

Union action won holiday back pay for a number of workers employed at the Freeburg, Ill., plant of the Forest City Manufacturing Co., and the Regional Office is seeking to obtain similar awards for workers at several other Missouri and Illinois firms.

As the result of a labor-management conference held July 24, management of the Forest City shop agreed to pay back pay to all workers who had received less than 75 cents per hour for the July 4 holiday.

In a letter sent to the undersigned group of the St. Louis Manufacturers' Assn., the Regional Office indicated that arbitration machinery would be invoked unless the association directed the St. Louis Ordnance Co. and the several other firms in the area to pay their workers immediately for a fifth legal holiday.

The St. Louis firm and a few other southwestern shops had thought they could avoid paying for the July 4 holiday by compelling their workers to take their vacation during that week. However, the union pointed out the agreement specifies that workers must be paid for five holidays during the year in addition to vacation; consequently, the employers still owe their workers another day's holiday pay.

Back pay for the vacation period and July 4 also is sought by the union for workers at the Sandoval, Ill., plant of the G. & R. Underwear Co. This firm similarly attempted to avenge on payment for July 4, and in addition computed vacation benefits at a rate below the Federal minimum.

NEW HEADQUARTERS FOR K.C. CENTER'S SERVICE DISCUSSED

KANSAS CITY ILOUWU spokesmen participated during the week of July 24 in a number of conferences and meetings concerning a variety of union and industry matters.

Possible purchase of a building to serve as new headquarters for Kansas City union offices and activities was discussed at a meeting of the joint board held July 20. It was decided to call a special meeting of the board shortly to map further plans on the project, including the raising of required funds.

At the above joint board meeting, a schedule was drawn up for an extensive, varied educational program for the coming season.

Negotiations for renewal of the union agreement with the St. Louis Dress Manufacturers' Assn. and for obtaining a wage adjustment in sportswear shops were begun at union-management conferences held during the same week. Further talks with the St. Louis employers' group will be held Sept. 1, following the return of Hyman Brand, the association president, from Europe.

Methods for improving the service provided by the Kansas City Union Health Center were taken up at a conference with the medical and administrative directors of the center.

Employment in industrial and commercial establishments increased by more than half a million between May and June, reaching a peak of nearly 43 million, the U. S. Labor Department announced.

Enjoying the Sights of the Big City



A group from the Sports, Ill. Local 393 wanted an excursion to they took in St. Louis one Saturday last month.

St. Louisians Enjoy Weekend of Fun and Study at "Y" Camp

A jam-packed weekend of study and play was enjoyed by a group of members from St. Louis locals at Camp Montebello, the YWCA camp outside the city, the first part of August. Activities were arranged by the St. Louis union's educational department.

In addition to square dancing, swimming, tennis, movies, crafts and hikes, the group heard lectures on psychology and economics by A. D. Buchenheimer and Margaret Dugan of the Washington University faculty.

Other educational activities conducted by Southwest locals include the following:

Local 21A, Peoria, Ill. Oshkosh, a representative of the Federal Social Security Division addressed the July meeting. The history of the ILOUWU will be discussed by Adolphe Bruegger of the regional staff, at the August and September meetings. District Council lectures in psychology, to be delivered by a noted educator, were approved at the July meeting. Marcelle Malanaka of the educational staff discussed with the group a full educational program for all of its affiliated locals.

Local 489, Quincy, Ill. Marie Buehler, an active member, was named chairman of the educational committee to direct a fall program of social and educational activities.

Mode O'Day Raises Put Into Effect at Parleys

The increased wage scales recently granted by Mode O'Day Garment Co. and the check-off system of dues collection have been put into effect following several labor-management conferences at plants in Fremont and Hastings, Neb. Les Harlan of the regional staff, Turp Hughes of the local staff and officers of Locals 502 and 493 represented the union at these parleys. The check-off started in Fremont on July 22 and in Hastings on Aug. 4.

Nardis Explores Year-Round Wage



Possibility of establishing a guaranteed "length of employment" system for workers in the Nardis sportswear plants in Dallas, Tex., was thrashed out at a breakfast conference last month. At the head of the table is Bert Winick, production manager of the firm, on his left, Vice Pres. Meyer Perlstein, surrounded by officers of the Dallas Joint Board and Local.

SouthwestShorts

An intensive drive for the unionization of the Hollywood Maxwell plant in Minden, La., was inaugurated last month by Elizabeth Kimmel of the Southwest staff. A committee consisting of five workers employed in the plant was named to supervise the drive.

An investigation to determine the increases and back pay due the workers employed in the H. A. Sabin Co. plant in Evansville, Ind., will be made jointly by Al Goldman of the ILOUWU and Mr. Stein of the firm. The union has requested wage increase for the workers because the firm has consistently denied its Evansville workers the piece rates that it pays to its Chicago workers.

At a labor-management conference last month the Greenfield Garment Co. of Greenfield, Tenn., agreed that no overtime is to be worked on the day the local meeting is held once a month. On that day work will cease in the plant at 3:30 P.M. in order to give all workers an opportunity to take part in union activities.

Local 461, newly established local in Dresden, Tenn., conducted the installation of elected officers on Aug. 3.

A social gathering was enjoyed by Local 509, Pittsburg, Kan., following their local meeting on July 27. The occasion was the visit by Adolphe Bruegger who took over the management recently. Refreshments were served and plans for an elaborate educational program were discussed.

At the July meeting of Local 465, Fremont, Neb., Evelyn Martinson, secretary of the local, was named a delegate to the Nebraska State Federation of Labor councils which begins in Omaha on Sept. 11.

Dallas Adds Six Organizers; Houston Hears Outdoor Music

The organization drive in Dallas, Tex., is due to get a shot in the arm with the arrival of six students from the ILOUWU Training Institute in New York who will assist in the drive now in progress at six non-union firms. Wave Tobin of the regional staff will direct the work of the

UNION WINS RENEWAL AND \$615 VACATION PAY IN MINNEAPOLIS

A renewed agreement with one Minneapolis firm and a settlement covering vacation pay for workers at another firm are reported by the Southwest Regional Office this week.

The Western Underwear Co. renewed its collective agreement on July 23. Past improvements include a wage increase for line workers, higher minimum scales for all workers, paid legal holidays and a number of other concessions effective Jan. 1, 1950.

Workers unanimously approved the agreement at a special meeting held the same day after Michael Finkelstein, manager of the Twin Cities Joint Board, had explained the agreement provisions.

The St. Bolten Coat Co. finally agreed to pay workers \$615 dollars in vacation pay after many weeks of quarrelsome negotiations. Finkelstein, negotiated the settlement.

The union has requested the A. S. Fine Dress Co. to make delinquent payments to the health fund without delay.

The ILOUWU students while supervising the over-all drive in Dallas. The six trainees recently completed a three-month period of classroom studies on all phases of trade union operation and have been assigned to the Southwest District to do field work. His route to Dallas, the group stopped in St. Louis on Aug. 14 to attend a staff meeting.

Texas locals report the following matters which have been receiving attention in recent weeks:

Nardis Sportswear. Cutters at this Dallas firm insist they are entitled to the same wage increase granted a fellow cutter who threatened to take a job in another shop.

Stewen. Members of Local 214 are organizing an ILOUWU cooperative credit union and are continuing to take advantage of the numerous out-door entertainments so popular in Houston during the summer months. On Aug. 1 a group attended the opera "Rio Rita" and another group heard a symphony concert in Hermann Park on Aug. 9.

Laredo. Proceeds from a dance to be given by Local 229 the end of the month will go into the local sick benefit fund.

Ask Tobin to Name Arbitrator in Lockout By Shawnee Firm

Secretary of Labor Tobin has been asked to select an arbitrator to rule on the lockout of workers by the Shawnee Garment Co. of Shawnee, Mo. The union filed the request after the company failed to agree on an arbitral paid vacation and local holiday pay due the workers are also at issue.

The union claims the firm locked out its Shawneese employees when it moved its operations to two new plants.

New Madrid 'Charged

Charges of unfair labor practices were lodged against the New Madrid Manufacturing Co. by the ILOUWU on July 27. The NLRB charges grew out of the firm's attempts to persuade workers to vote against the union, in violation of the terms of a tentative agreement with the union. As a result, the Regional Office cancelled the temporary pact with this firm of New Madrid, Mo.

At Boston Tea Party



Managers of two Boston affiliates chat with Education Director Charlotte Robinson (left) during a full union festivities. Mary Levin (right) is in charge of Local 229 and Nathan Barker is manager of Local 24.

NLRB Ignores Broken Pledge by Bedford Co.

The timidity of a government agency is enabling the New Bedford Manufacturing Co. to continue a policy of ignoring its obligation to bargain in good faith with the ILGWU, union officers charge. Attempts during more than 10 years to organize this firm were finally successful last November. It then the ILGWU won a National Labor Relations Board election by 100 to 51.

The firm, manufacturers of pajamas, from the first showed a reluctance to proceed in an orderly fashion toward the negotiation of an agreement. Many conferences were held but all were fruitless.

It became clear that the final establishment of a mature relationship with this firm would require the use of the labor board and perhaps the courts.

The Northeast Department's attorney, Jack Minkin, finally succeeded in securing, through the NLRB, a stipulation in which the firm admitted that it had failed to bargain in good faith, that it had discriminated against union members and that it was willing to compensate those members for loss of wages. This stipulation, in which it was agreed that these practices would cease, was filed with the United States Circuit Court of Appeals in Boston.

Nevertheless, since entering the stipulation the firm has continued the practices which first led to its formulation. There has been no bargaining in good faith. The same evasive and stalling tactics that marked earlier conferences are still used by the company.

This has been called to the attention of the NLRB. Yet, in spite of the fact that the NLRB was instrumental in having the stipulation drawn, it has failed to act in initiating contempt proceedings against the New Bedford Manufacturing Co. which seems content of being able to ignore its own commitments to the board.

Union on Trail of Welfare Payments From Defunct Firm

The Northeast Department is taking all necessary steps to recover from the Monroe Waist Co., Greenvale, Pa., contributions to the health and welfare fund which were not paid when the firm liquidated its business at the end of last year. The Greenvale plant was operated by the Mitchell and Weber Co. At the present time there are prospects that a new employer will take over the plant.

The Northeast Department has meanwhile continued to advance Monroe workers the regular health benefits as well as their vacation payments. In the belief that it will be able to obtain these contributions from the liquidated firm.

SCHOOLHOUSE DRESS WILL ADJUST RATES TO HALT WAGE SLIDE

Important adjustments and improvements have been won at the Schoolhouse Dress Co., St. Clair, Pa. This followed the receipt of numerous complaints from Schoolhouse workers that the firm had failed to take any steps to halt the decline in earnings.

The St. Clair plant and the All American Co. in nearby Lebanon are jointly contractors for the Handcraft Co., manufacturers of children's dresses.

Workers have been especially lifted by the local plant manager's practice of evading adding complaints by shifting responsibility to the manufacturer, who in turn shunts it back to the contractor.

With their patience thus exhausted, the workers staged a stoppage last week without the benefit of union sanction. The immediate effect was a conference in New York between the union and company led to an agreement to adjust rates for time and piece workers, and to improve certain features of the health and welfare benefit system.

In order to bolster declining earnings, the firm and the union reached an agreement through which all workers are guaranteed maintenance of their average earnings in their own section when they are shifted to other operations. It was also agreed that the firm will cooperate with ILGWU engineers in improving present production methods. Techniques employed in other plants making similar products will be studied.

Renewals Signed in Two Plants in Sunbury Area

Agreements have been renewed with the Myco Manufacturing Co. of Wilberm, Pa., and the Spruce Manufacturing Co. of Sunbury, Pa. It is reported by District Manager Lou Roma.

Union Wins at Bertelle After 10-Year Campaign

Agreements have been signed or renewed with four Upstate New York firms employing a total of over 500 workers, it is announced by Supervisor Max Weiler.

Bertelle Manufacturing Co. The strike against this firm in Birkman was terminated at the end of last month with the signing of an agreement that provides a flat increase of 10 cents an hour for more than 100 workers employed.

The drive that ended with the contract was the last of a number conducted by the ILGWU over the past 10 years. This time the campaign to organize Bertelle met with a favorable response from the workers.

Other terms of the contract included standard welfare benefit provisions and an 85-cent minimum wage.

Weiler and Anthony Blasing negotiated, assisted by a shop committee.

Frankfort Garment Co. A short strike at this plant in Frankfort has resulted in an agreement covering its 150 workers which provides an 85-cent minimum, paid holidays and health and welfare benefits for which the employer contributes an amount equal to 4% per cent of weekly payroll.

Leach Manufacturing Co. and Owen Manufacturing Co. These two upstate firms have renewed their agreements, covering more than 200 workers. The main feature in both pacts is incorporation of a union minimum of 80 cents.

Van Rensselaer. The campaign to organize this firm in Dunkirk is being conducted with renewed vigor in the presence of a favorable worker reception. Under Weiler's supervision, Jim Belluso is continuing the drive begun by Jim Kelly.

Shop Chairladies. Shop leaders from Upstate New York areas met with Vice Pres. David Ginzgold and other department officers in Utica on Aug. 6. More than 80 workers attended.

NORTHEAST DEPARTMENT

David Ginzgold • Director

N'East Steps In to Recover Pay When Bard Co. Vanishes

Three thousand and six hundred dollars representing more than two weeks of work by the employees of Bard Fashions have been obtained from the firm's jobber, Judy Kent, following the closing of the Bard firm in Pottsville, Pa., last month.

According to officers of the Northeast Department, Judy Kent had advanced the financial backing that made it possible for Bard Fashions to start operations in Pottsville. The firm employed 60 workers for about a month, at the end of which time they went out of business. It was only then that the hard workers notified the union that their employer had retained more than two weeks of their pay.

At a special meeting held after the firm closed its doors, it was indicated that the employees' kindness in the matter of collecting pay was motivated by a desire to help the firm "make a go of it" in its new business. Management, on the other hand, had made several promises to pay which it had never fulfilled.

Vice Presidents David Ginzgold and Charles Krimmer thereupon conferred with representatives of Judy Kent in New York. At these conferences it was clear that the Bard workers had allowed their generosity to carry them too far. A strict interpretation of the collective agreement between the jobber and Local 25 could be taken to mean that Judy Kent was technically not obligated to meet the payroll because the workers had not notified the union immediately of their employer's behavior.

However, when the unusual circumstances and motives in the case were made clear to the jobber, he agreed to cooperate by assuming full responsibility for the major portion of the payroll.

Oscar Newman, local district manager, participated in the negotiations.

(See "The Market," Page 6)

FOUR MORE PLANTS ADOPT SLATE BELT PACT'S PROVISIONS

The full benefits of the "Slate Belt" agreement covering workers in shops in the Hosiery-Pen Argyl-Bangor area of Pennsylvania have been extended to workers in four more shops as the result of the signing of the renewed agreements. It is reported by District Manager Orson Sardagna.

The four firms are the Nazareth Dress Co. of Nazareth, the Telsco Co. of Easton, as well as new plants opened in Easton by the Saylorsburg Co. of Saylorsburg and the Superior Manufacturing Co. of Windgap.

The "Slate Belt" pact includes provisions for six paid holidays, an 85-cent minimum wage and a 40-hour cent-of-payroll health and welfare fund.

The same holiday and minimum wage provisions are included in the first contract signed with the Beattytown Foundations of Easton. The firm contributes an amount equal to 5 per cent of its payroll to a health and welfare fund.

The number of individuals drawing unemployment insurance benefits under state unemployment laws dropped sharply between January and June 1950, according to U. S. Labor Department's Bureau of Employment Security.

"Threats and Bribes Must Go"



Workers at Tiny Town shop in York, Pa., stage a protest demonstration to show their impatience with management's continued stall on negotiating a contract. The workers are holding out for a pact guaranteeing them full union protection.

I.L.G.W.U.

EDUCATION

'Hands' to Go Into Schools Along with Special Syllabus

It's almost time for the kids to be going back to school, and when they do the ILGWU Educational Department wants them to be able to see the ILGWU's dramatic film of garment industry life "With These Hands". The union therefore is preparing to make available 14 mm. prints of the film for school libraries and extension services.

Teachers and school superintendents attending Columbia University Teachers College this summer got a preview of the film, as did the Economic Education Workshop of New York University.

To facilitate classroom use, the Educational Department is preparing a film guide for teachers and discussion leaders suggesting class groups for which the film would be appropriate. In addition to summarizing the story, the syllabus will contain a series of questions on the film and the industry. Since the film's length is 50 minutes, the length of a usual class period, it is expected that it will prove popular for school assemblies.

Further publicity is being given "With These Hands" in teachers' journals, according to Mark Starr, director of the Education Department.

Applications for use of the film should be forwarded to the ILGWU Education Department, 1710 Broadway. Notice should be given as far in advance as possible.

LOCAL 105 MANAGER TO COACH U.S. TEAM IN ISRAEL OLYMPICS

Martin L. Cohen, manager of Local 105, Sweeney and 63rd-Wear Workers, will leave on Sept. 23 for Tel-Aviv where he and Bobby Sands of N. Y. City College will coach a picked United States basketball team entered in the Israel Olympics, Sept. 27 to Oct. 8, 1950.

Fifty-eight countries, among them Britain, France, Holland, Belgium and a number of Latin American republics, will take part in the contests, which will include wrestling, soccer, fencing, boxing, javelin and discus throwing.

The contests are being arranged under the auspices of 1950 Macabiah, Inc., and are conducted on a non-profit basis, it was stated.

KNOW YOUR CITY

Saturday Visits to Points of Interest

(Remember to Bring Your Lunch)

Aug. 19 at 11 A.M. Willowbrook Park, Meet at Staten Island Ferry (HKT to South Ferry or HMT to Whitehall St.) Enjoy an afternoon in most delightful country surroundings.

Aug. 26 at 11 A.M. Van Cortlandt Park. (HKT to 34 St.) Meet outside station. A pleasant afternoon in a spacious park.

Sept. 3 Boat trip to Bear Mountain. (Meet at 4:30 A.M. at West 42nd St. Ferry, Hudson River Day Line Pier.) Special-rate round-trip ticket purchasable from ILGWU guide at \$2.40. Enjoying a cool ride on the Hudson and plenty of invigorating exercise at Bear Mountain Park.

LABOR FILMS SHOWN AFL-CIO EDUCATION DIRECTORS AT ILG

Films produced by trade unions were featured at the special film preview conducted at the ILGWU studios on Aug. 14 for the benefit of film distributors, ILGWU local managers and education directors in both AFL and CIO unions. Invitations were sent to over 200 persons in the New York area.

Four movies were shown: "Union at Work," produced for the Textile Workers Union-CIO; "Pursuit of Happiness," the Amalgamated Butler Workers' film; "Through the Needle's Eye" describing the activities of the British Tiller and Garment Workers Union. Longest film was the ILGWU's "With These Hands," shown for the benefit of those who were out of town when the film played on Broadway.

Starr Urges UN Approve Teaching of Esperanto

A petition urging the United Nations to help spread the use of Esperanto as an auxiliary language which would facilitate communication between the peoples of the world was presented to Benjamin A. Cohen, assistant Secretary General of the UN, on Aug. 2 by a committee of 16 Esperantists including Mark Starr of the ILGWU Educational Department. In presenting the petition the committee, representing approximately 16,000 members of the Universal Esperanto Assn., suggested that the UN encourage the teaching of Esperanto in the schools and the development of its use in travel, international commerce and correspondence.

LAST CALL!
ILGWU VMS
to
UN General Assembly
September 12
(Tentative Date)
ILGWU members should register immediately with the Education Department, 1710 Broadway, in order to attend a session of the historic Assembly.

At a recent meeting at which health education was discussed, I was somewhat surprised to note there were about as many different concepts of health education as there were people in the room. One participant felt that "The purpose of health education is to tell people what to eat and what not to eat, to sleep with windows open, to dress sensibly, to rest, to exercise, to diffuse health knowledge over as wide an area as possible."

But how many people read health education literature? The more distribution of it does not guarantee that it is read and heeded. Lectures on the need to guard one's health are fine, but provision of "follow up" health center facilities after working hours can do no less of the worker's time would be involved) would be far better. Of course, any health education program, even a limited one, is an advance. But health education alone, without the opportunity to contact the individual, is a job only half done.

A case in point was an ILGWU member of long standing who came to my office the other day and complained bitterly against a physician whom he had advised him to have a chest X-ray. "I don't need an X-ray," he shouted, "all I need is some medicine. I am sick!"

Here was an excellent case for a health educator. The man was ig-

norant of the function of the X-ray and of the tremendous part it plays in the diagnosis of an illness. His whole attitude called for enlightenment, patience and understanding. Why was he so obstinately opposed to use of the X-ray? Was he afraid of what it might reveal? Was he worried about the expense? Surely not the latter, because he had enough medical stamps to cover the cost. What was it then?

After spending considerable time with him, I concluded that his attitude resulted from ignorance of the facts. We amount of literature would have caused this man to change his mind; personal contact did. Of course, he is the exception rather than the rule, since most of our members are quite willing to be X-rayed. However, there are still some who need to be told again and again that it is better to know what the X-ray will show—of anything—than to be in the dark about one's own health, thereby risking serious illness that could easily be prevented, or cured quickly, if caught in time.

Thom MONTREAL

Thousands of unorganized garment workers in the Province of Quebec recently received vacation and holiday benefits as a direct result of the ILGWU's successful efforts in obtaining these benefits for its own members, Vice Pres. Bernard Shaw reports.

Under Canadian law, certain companies and standards won by organized groups are extended to all workers in the industry. In accordance with this law, some 10,000 non-union dressmakers in Quebec received over \$40,000 in vacation and holiday back pay from their employers through the office of the Joint Committee of the Dress Industry.

Non-union employers who were compelled to make payment of these benefits through the committee also had to pay an additional fine of 20 per cent, which is used for administrative expenses of the committee. Checks to the workers were signed by Claude Jodan, manager of the Montreal Dress Joint Board, who is treasurer of the joint committee.

Overtime Pay
As of Aug. 1, overtime provisions in the union agreement with the dress industry have come into effect, with time-and-a-half to be paid for all work performed between 5 and 6 P.M. after 40 hours, and for any work after 6 P.M. in computing 40-hour periods, workers are to be credited with any time lost because of illness, layoffs or lack of work.

Class of '50—Wisconsin School for Workers



The ILGWU group that comprised the annual Institute of the University of Wisconsin School for Workers took time out to have their picture taken.

CUTTERS COLUMN

Isidore Nagler • Manager

The membership meeting of Local 10 on Aug. 7 was notable, not merely because a thousand members turned out despite a hot and humid evening, but also because of the important decisions adopted by the cutters.

Action was taken to halt the net depletion of the reserve in the local's age fund caused by the accelerated retirements in recent years under existing industry plans. Though only \$1 apiece is paid to the fund annually by the 1,000 members of the local, over \$30,000 was disbursed last year in retiring members who receive a lump sum payment of \$500, in addition to the monthly payments from the pension fund. This was possible only because of the reserve accumulated in the fund over a period of many years. On the basis of current and anticipated retirements the fund could not continue without replenishment.

On the recommendation of the executive board, the membership unanimously decided that the local's old age fund shall be contributed to net payments to retiring members during the current year members shall pay \$3 a year to the fund (\$1.50 each month) for the year beginning Jan. 1, 1950; and that at the end of each year the tax shall be adjusted to meet the funds sufficient to meet the payments required during the preceding year.

In connection with the increased per capita voted by the recent

International Convention, which amounts to a net increase of three and a half cents per member, the membership decided to carry out this decision and approved an adjustment in dues as of August to include the additional amount.

The financing of the increased death benefit, now set at \$1,000, was another important problem dealt with at the meeting. The present benefit is financed out of a \$1 annual tax by members supplemented by a \$2 annual payment per member from the various health funds. The pooling of the death benefits will require an additional payment of \$4 to cover each member.

On the recommendation of the executive board it was decided that in the Miscellaneous Branch the entire \$4 per member shall be paid out of the respective health funds, which are under the direct jurisdiction of Local 10. The Dress Joint Board had already recommended that the full amount be paid for out of the health fund, notwithstanding the heavy burden this would place on that fund.

Thus the cutters in the miscellaneous and dress trades will have their death benefit increased from \$500 to \$1,000 without having to

ATTENTION Members Local 10

As is customary, there will be no meeting in August.

pay any portion of the \$4 required for the additional benefit.

As to the cloak cutters, it can only be stated at this time that the matter is under consideration by the Cloak Joint Board.

Manager Nagler in explaining the operation of the New York Disability Benefits Law stated that the union, through its various health funds, will continue to handle sick benefit payments. He emphasized that cutters therefore are exempt from any payroll deductions for these benefits.

Campaign Committee

In line with the ILGWU decision to take an active part in the coming election campaign, the membership approved an executive board recommendation setting up a 1950 Campaign Committee of Local 10 under the chairmanship of Manager Nagler. Since the Taft-Hartley law prohibits contributions from union treasurers for election of Federal candidates, all membership were urged to pay a voluntary \$2 tax to the special local campaign committee, and those who could pay more were asked to do so when subscription lists are circulated in the shops.

Relief Tax

Many members who have pledged to purchase Amun-Israeli Housing

Corp. bonds have already come forward and met their obligations. Those who have not done so are urged to act promptly. This is a sound investment at 3 per cent interest, repayable in 15 years, which is reduced by prominent leaders in the business and labor world and backed by mortgage collateral and the full resources of the government of Israel. You can do yourself a good turn and also help a noble cause by subscribing for these bonds if you have not already done so.

In view of the urgent need for support of relief activities in Europe, a shop chairman's meeting recently approved a recommendation of the joint boards and local unions to adopt a \$6 tax to assist such humanitarian causes. The cutters, always conscious of their duty to aid needy and distressed persons, will surely meet this obligation in the traditional spirit of international solidarity.

It is good to report that the shops are working at a pace about 15 to 20 per cent above last year. In many shops cutters are working additional time.

Called to Colors

The present grave international situation is having its repercussions on our economy and American life generally. Already members of Local 10 are being called for service in the armed forces. The first to be called were Leonard Becker, a member of the Marine Reserve, an underwear cutter, age 28, who joined the union in February, 1947; and Herbert S. Scharf, a member of the Naval Reserve, a sportswear cutter, age 28, who joined the organization in August, 1940.

OUT-OF- CLOAK

George Rubin • Manager

\$610,000 Vacation Benefits

The steady improvement in the welfare benefits enjoyed by members of the Cloak Out-of-Town Department was indicated once again in figures on the distribution of vacation checks last month. Although completions from each local are not yet complete, rough figures show that the total has exceeded \$610,000, with checks going to about 124,000 members.

This compares with the record for 1949 when vacation benefits to out-of-town cloakmakers amounted to \$575,000. Thus, the increase in these payments since last year is approximately \$35,000.

Local 130 Picnic

The annual picnic of Local 130, Monmouth County, N. J., will take place on Sept. 3 at Ocean County Park, Lakewood. This is the fourth year the local is staging an all-day outing to mark the end of the summer. According to Business Agent Sam Pomeroy, all arrangements have been made to provide an abundance of refreshments and entertainment to members and guests attending the affair.

Proceeds from the picnic, sponsored by the Local 130 Civic Welfare Fund, will be earmarked for use in behalf of worthy causes and humanitarian institutions in the various communities where its members live or work.

Heads Newburgh AFL

James V. Chanclo, chairman of Local 165, Newburgh, was re-elected last month as chairman of the Newburgh Central Labor Union, which comprises all AFL local unions in the city. A presser at the Punk shop, Chanclo served as a delegate to the recent ILGWU convention.

Members Retired

The latest out-of-town cloakmaker to qualify for retirement benefits is Louis Goldberg of Local 165, Newburgh, N. Y., an ILGWU member for several decades. To mark the first retirement in the Newburgh district, the local arranged special ceremonies which were widely reported in the press.

There are now 58 Cloak Out-of-Town members on the retired list, drawing pensions of \$65 a month from the industry's retirement fund.

**Your Campaign
Dollar buys
PLENTY**



**Contribute to the
ILGWU 1950
CAMPAIGN
COMMITTEE**

Cloak Leaders Bestow Tributes on Breslaw

Labor and management in the coat, suit and skirt industry joined with outstanding representatives of community and humanitarian causes, in paying tribute to Vice Pres. Joseph Breslaw on Aug. 9 at the Hotel Astor. More than 750 guests attended the testimonial dinner which climaxed a campaign on behalf of the City of Hope (Los Angeles Sanatorium) and the Deborah Tuberculosis Sanatorium.

General Manager Israel Peinberg lauded the guest of honor for his lifetime of consistent loyalty to the labor movement. During his 25 years of active leadership, the cloak presser's chief has given the best that was in him for his fellow workers. There is hardly a wardrobe in New York, seeking to advance the interests of the underprivileged at home and overseas, which has not enlisted Breslaw's broad sympathies and dynamic energy, Peinberg stated.

Len Schneider, a prominent cloak manufacturer, and Joseph L. DiBova, executive director of the Deborah Ladies' Committee, spoke for the employers in the industry. Although acknowledging a wide area of disagreement between the union and management, they hailed the spirit of harmonious cooperation which prevailed in the trade. The fact that all factors could unite in honoring Breslaw was indicative of the general recognition that unionists and employees had a mutual stake in the prosperity of the industry, they said.

Vice Pres. Benjamin Kaplan, chairman of the dinner, described the broad interests of Breslaw and other cloak leaders in assisting the two tuberculosis institutions which reunited the proceeds of the affair. The facilities of these agencies have always been at the disposal of the ILGWU, rendering great ser-

vice to those in need, he said. A hand-lettered, gold-embossed parchment scroll was presented to Breslaw, bearing the signatures of the leaders of the cloak associations and his accomplishments and expressed the conviction that "in him the sick, the needy and the helpless will always find a ready defender."

Symbol of Union-Industry Cooperation



Leaders of cloak associations and ILGWU locals joined in salute to Vice Pres. Joseph Breslaw on Aug. 9. (See story.) Left to right: Vice Pres. Benjamin Kaplan, chairman of dinner, Breslaw, and Joseph Dubov of Merchants Assn.

Cloakmakers Pass Relief Assessment

A multi-purpose fund raising effort in behalf of overseas relief, liberal political action, Amun-Israeli housing and Cloak Joint Board organizational needs was launched at a giant meeting of 1,000 cloak shop chairmen and active workers on Aug. 7 at the Hotel Diplomat.

General Manager Israel Peinberg's recommendation of the urgent necessity for support of these various endeavors was unanimously approved by the assembly, which indicated that the cloakmakers would respond with their usual generosity to the appeal. Vice Pres. Benjamin Kaplan presided at the meeting.

The tax for overseas relief has become a tradition among the members. Initiated during the war years, it became an annual drive as the number of distressed abroad mounted. The tax at this time will be \$6 for operators, pressers, finishers, cutters and \$5 for other

crafts. One dollar of this amount will be used to defray the expenses of the intensive

work recently undertaken to achieve 100 per cent understatement. The decision of the Golden Jubilee Convention to obtain a \$2 political contribution from every member will be put into effect during this coming period. In order to implement the propaganda offensive which will emphasize the need to eliminate reactionaries from Congress, every cloakmaker will be asked to help build a campaign chest to provide the financial basis for the electoral struggle. The outbreak of the Korean strife has made this objective even more imperative for liberal practices at home are the best assurance for an effective democratic foreign policy, stated Peinberg.

Finally, workers will be asked to lend their dollars to make possible much needed homes in Israel. The Amun-Israeli Housing Corp. is seeking \$100,000 through the sale of 15-year, 3 per cent bonds to construct 4,000 low-cost homes. This is an investment, not a gift, and bonds are available in denominations of \$25, \$50, \$100 and \$500.

The machinery of the joint board is in full operation, and maximum results are expected from the collection. In Brooklyn, several hundred shop chairmen from the Williamsburg, Brownsville and Bensonhurst areas endorsed the fund drive and pledged the collection of the cloakmakers in the boroughs. Peinberg, Anthony Cotto, manager of the district office, Howard Moskowitz, executive secretary of the district office, and Samuel Zeldin, district manager, have addressed Brooklyn meetings.

JUSTICE

INTERNATIONAL LADIES' GARMENT WORKERS' UNION

Cold Facts in a Hot War

The work season for fall production has started early in the women's garment shops, with buyer commitments much larger than a year ago and prospects for a bullish manufacturing and retailing market unusually bright for the rest of the year.

Nevertheless, over-optimism is hardly a permissible luxury in forecasting production totals in our industries. We prefer to keep our fingers crossed and hope for the best.

The sudden conversion of the cold war into a shooting war in the Korean sector, which is rapidly putting the country on a near-mobilization level, thus far has not affected the production pace in the women's garment plants. On the other hand, while store sales have been mounting in recent months, we have heard no reports of women crowding garment counters in fear of oncoming scarcities of apparel.

The reverberations of the Korean crisis within the greater American industrial community, however, sooner or later are bound to reach our trades, too. As suspense grows and its effects—both material and psychological—reach deeper into the core of our daily existence, the huge question mark as to whether Korea is but a local operation or the first chapter of the great battle against Russia's attempt to enslave mankind, is assuming ever bigger proportions.

We hear warnings from all sides that we need not, must not blunder about it: the war is on, they say, and the chips are down. There are few voices heard to the contrary, and even those admit that, while the Kremlin is not yet ready for an all-out conflict with the free world, it is quite ready to incite its satellites into acts of aggression in vulnerable spots the world over and splinter or exhaust our forces by such minor operations.

In any event, the stark, frozen fact stands out that each and every one of us may soon be a target and that we must act boldly and rapidly to defend our liberties, our homes, our very lives.

The rising living costs must be checked through effective controls without delay. The "gray" or black merchants must be smoked out and driven from the production and distribution markets. We learned from experience in the last war that the profiteers will not be stopped by sermons. The only cure against the speculators is the big stick of the law. Aside from price controls, too, an excess profits tax must be enacted before this Congress adjourns, to remove the incentive for speculative price increases and to return to the government the profits extorted from the public.

There is another problem looming in sight as we enter upon the biggest preparedness program in our history—the question of wage freezing and of a no-strike pledge by organized labor.

There's hardly a doubt that labor will come forth with a no-strike pledge when the time comes. Labor did it early in 1942, without prodding or jolting, and with but rare exceptions, it abided by that undertaking throughout the war. We recall, nevertheless, that while labor stood solidly behind the government, it was organized industry that went on a sit-down strike at that time against the safety and security of our country, refusing to convert their plants to defense production until their terms were met.

Concerning the acceptance of a wage freeze by labor, the Executive Council of the AFL last week spelled out its judgment in this matter in a succinct and realistic way when it declared that "We realize that inevitably wage controls may become necessary. . . . However, wages have already fallen far behind the rising cost of living. . . . Wages, therefore, must be permitted to rise through the processes of collective bargaining and otherwise . . . to meet these higher living costs and to establish a parity."

"You Wanna Get Hurt, Boy?"



"The Party Line"



Pins & Needles

M. D. Danish

THOSE who are expecting lightning speed in the peace parleys between the AFL-CIO concord commissioners might do well to shift their gears. For it is only too evident that the hitches and blocks to labor unity in American trade unionism are still numerous and will not be overcome by mere wishful thinking.

The Korean emergency undoubtedly has brought up new labor problems the solution of which could best be advanced by united action. Organized labor's policy toward wages and manpower controls is just taking shape at the Far Eastern crisis is unfolding. On the domestic front, too, the political campaign, now around the corner, which should have a welding effect on the two major labor bodies, is slow in coming to a boil.

Last, but not least, is the shadow of John L. Lewis who, a few months ago, had been invited by Philip Murray to join in the current cycle of peace talks and accepted the invitation. So far, Lewis has been "excluded" from the meetings, but he, together with the other "independents," will probably be there when the overall terms come to be shaped. Somehow, few people could be made to believe that John Lewis would be content with a secondary role in any major labor entente. . . .

IT'S been a long time since we've heard that term "capitalist encirclement" in justification of Soviet political canalization. It was thought for a time that with the subjugation of Poland, Hungary, Czechoslovakia, the Baltic and the Balkan countries, the Mother Soviet had built up a cushion thick enough to withstand all capitalist shocks from without.

A few days ago, nonetheless, Marshal Stalin, with a sly and undoubtedly toward such new "neighboring" lands as Indo-China, Malaya, Iran, Greece, Yugoslavia, not to mention Korea, has seen fit to pull the old scarecrow out of the Soviet barn and to admonish his cohorts, in an article published in a leading Moscow journal, that "so long as the Soviet Union is encircled by capitalist countries the Soviet State must become ever more powerful. . . ."

What it actually means is that first the Soviets had to swallow a dozen neighbors in order to prevent a "primary" encirclement, and after this was done, to launch a series of assaults on the neighbors of its former neighbors as a sort of "insurance" encirclement — "until communism has won its world-wide victory. . . ."

Those who stand in stupefied awe over

the alleged inscrutability of Soviet world strategy might learn a thing or two from these briefly frank Stalin remarks. The Big Brother, by the way, rarely drapes his world-gobbling stratagems in velvet terms. . . . It's just that some good folks refuse to believe their own ears.

THE National Maritime Union, once owned body and soul by the Communies, ratified in a referendum of its 40,000 members an amendment to its constitution specifying that no alien member would henceforth be permitted to register for shipping unless he could show an accepted application for first citizenship papers, at least.

This, of course, is meant directly as a club against Communists who in former years found the waterfront a fertile field for exploits in behalf of Red totalitarianism. Yet, while it may serve, if rigidly enforced, to weed out the cadres of prospective alien saboteurs from American shipping and maritime ranks, it would leave the naturalized or native-born Communies in the NMU untouched. It is apparent, nevertheless, that in the present political climate in the maritime workers' organization this small and shrinking Red element has little chance for prospering. How profoundly, indeed, times have changed. . . .

AND now, let's look around for a brief moment—what has become of that Joe McCarthy typoonette which but a few scant weeks ago raised froth and fury on the front and back pages of our country's press?

We examined carefully a half-dozen Sunday newspapers of metropolitan caliber last week and found not a trace of it. Most experts are inclined to give Korea the major credit for this phenomenal eclipse, though not a few claim that the McCarthy effluvia died from self-poisoning.

Worst hit by the McCarthy bubble, as was to be expected, were his Republican Party master-minds, among them such luminaries as Senators Robert A. Taft and Styles Bridges. These high-minded politicians actually had hoped to jockey the GOP into control of Congress on the backwash of the McCarthy pollution. As they backtracked hastily from the McCarthy foothills, Taft and his allies are now straining their wits to coin some political profit out of their country's current difficulties in far-off Korea. Anything to save America for the National Manufacturers' Association and the United States Chamber of Commerce. . . .